

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 54, 60, 68-71, 76, 77, 79-81, 83-84, 86-87, 89-90.

Please add new claims 91-113.

1-53. **(Canceled)**

54. **(Currently Amended)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin- β -receptor (LT- β -R) signaling in a subject having a Th1 cell-mediated autoimmune disorder ~~or a Th1 cell-mediated chronic inflammatory disease~~ comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an LT- β -R blocking agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT- β -R ~~or an antibody directed against LT- β -R.~~

55-56. **(Canceled)**

57. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 54 , wherein the subject is a human.

58. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT- β -R having a ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand.

59. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT- β -R fused to one or more heterologous protein domains.

60. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 111 54, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a monoclonal antibody directed against LT- β -R.

61-65. **(Canceled)**

66. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 58, wherein the soluble LT- β -R is administered in an amount sufficient to coat LT- β ligand -positive cells for 1 to 14 days.

67. **(Canceled)**

68. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~59~~ 58, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered to the subject at a dose of about 1 mg/kg.

69. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~59~~ 58, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered to the subject via oral administration ~~or parenteral administration.~~

70. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~59~~ 58, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered to the subject via parenteral administration ~~selected from the group consisting of subcutaneous administration, intravenous administration, and intralesional administration.~~

71. **(Currently Amended)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin- β receptor (LT- β -R) signaling in a subject having a Th1 cell-mediated autoimmune disorder ~~or a Th1 cell-mediated chronic inflammatory disorder~~ comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an LT- β -R blocking agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT- β -R fused to one or more heterologous protein domains.

72. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

73. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the soluble LT- β -R comprises a functional sequence of amino acids selected from the amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the functional sequence comprises the LT- β -R ligand binding domain.

74. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 73, wherein the heterologous domain further comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.
75. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 74, wherein the composition is administered to the subject at a dose of about 1 mg/kg.
76. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 74, wherein the composition is administered to the subject via oral administration ~~or parenteral administration~~.
77. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 74, wherein the composition is administered to the subject via parenteral administration ~~selected from the group consisting of subcutaneous administration, intravenous administration, and intralesional administration~~.
78. **(Canceled)**
79. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, ~~rheumatoid arthritis~~, diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis, sympathetic ophthalmia, and uveitis.
80. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 100 ~~74~~, wherein the chronic inflammatory disorder is ~~selected from the group consisting of inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis~~.
81. **(Currently Amended)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin- β receptor (LT- β -R) signaling in a subject having a Th1 cell-mediated autoimmune disorder ~~or a Th1 cell-mediated chronic inflammatory disorder~~ comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an LT- β -R blocking agent comprising a soluble LT- β -R fused to a heterologous domain comprising a human immunoglobulin Fc domain, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the soluble LT- β -R comprises a functional sequence of amino acids selected from the amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the functional sequence comprises the LT- β -R ligand binding domain.

82. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the composition is administered to the subject at a dose of about 1 mg/kg.

83. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the composition is administered to the subject via oral administration ~~or parenteral administration.~~

84. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the composition is administered via parenteral administration ~~selected from the group consisting of subcutaneous administration, intravenous administration, and intralesional administration.~~

85. **(Canceled)**

86. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, ~~rheumatoid arthritis~~, diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis, sympathetic ophthalmia, and uveitis.

87. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~80~~ 81, wherein the chronic inflammatory disorder is selected from the group consisting of inflammatory bowel disease is ~~[[,]] Crohn's disease [[,]] or and~~ ulcerative colitis.

88. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 59, wherein the heterologous protein domain further comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.

89. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, ~~rheumatoid arthritis~~, diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis, sympathetic ophthalmia, and uveitis.

90. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim ~~113~~ 54, wherein the chronic inflammatory disorder is selected from the group consisting of inflammatory bowel disease, is ~~[[,]] Crohn's disease [[,]] or and~~ ulcerative colitis.

91. **(New)** The method according to claim 54, wherein the autoimmune disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.
92. **(New)** The method according to claim 70, wherein the parenteral administration is subcutaneous.
93. **(New)** The method according to claim 70, wherein the parenteral administration is intravenous.
94. **(New)** The method according to claim 70, wherein the parenteral administration is intralesional.
95. **(New)** The method according to claim 71, wherein the autoimmune disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.
96. **(New)** The method according to claim 84, wherein the parenteral administration is subcutaneous.
97. **(New)** The method according to claim 84, wherein the parenteral administration is intravenous.
98. **(New)** The method according to claim 84, wherein the parenteral administration is intralesional.
99. **(New)** The method according to claim 81, wherein the autoimmune disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.
100. **(New)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin- β -receptor (LT- β -R) signaling in a subject having a Th1 cell-mediated chronic inflammatory disease comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an LT- β -R blocking agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT- β -R.

101. **(New)** The method according to claim 100, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT- β -R having a ligand binding domain that can selectively bind to a surface LT ligand.
102. **(New)** The method according to claim 100, wherein the soluble LT- β -R comprises a functional sequence of amino acids selected from the amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the functional sequence comprises the LT- β -R ligand binding domain.
103. **(New)** The method according to claim 100, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises a soluble LT- β -R fused to one or more heterologous protein domains.
104. **(New)** The method according to claim 103, wherein the heterologous protein domain comprises a human immunoglobulin Fc domain.
105. **(New)** The method according to claim 100, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered to the subject at a dose of about 1 mg/kg.
106. **(New)** The method according to claim 100, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered to the subject via oral administration.
107. **(New)** The method according to claim 100, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered to the subject via parenteral administration.
108. **(New)** The method according to claim 107, wherein the parenteral administration is subcutaneous.
109. **(New)** The method according to claim 107, wherein the parenteral administration is intravenous.
110. **(New)** The method according to claim 107, wherein the parenteral administration is intralesional.

111. **(New)** A method for inhibiting lymphotoxin- β -receptor (LT- β -R) signaling in a subject having a Th1 cell-mediated autoimmune disorder or a Th1 cell-mediated chronic inflammatory disease comprising administering to the subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an LT- β -R blocking agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the LT- β -R blocking agent comprises an antibody directed against LT- β -R.

112. **(New)** The method according to claim 111, wherein the autoimmune disorder is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, diabetes mellitus, multiple sclerosis, sympathetic ophthalmia, rheumatoid arthritis, and uveitis.

113. **(New)** The method according to claim 90, wherein the chronic inflammatory disease is inflammatory bowel disease.